

5-1 7-10-68

Petition Asks For U.S. Files On JFK Slaying

An organization called "We the People Speak of America, Inc." has begun a drive to obtain signatures for a petition asking that the complete files of the federal government on the assassination of President Kennedy be made public immediately.

The group is led by William F. Gillen Jr., a New Orleans resident. Gillen spoke to the Young Men's Business Club today trying to build up support for his campaign.

GILLEN CRITICIZED the federal government for keeping 20 per cent of the testimony

given to the Warren Commission classified. He said this information should be made public now and not after the turn of the century.

"Something is wrong somewhere," said Gillen, who added that if there was nothing wrong, then there would be nothing for the government to hide.

Gillen said he hopes to obtain more signatures than ever before compiled for a single petition.

The petition asks simply that the closed files be made public immediately. It is not addressed to any particular public official nor to Congress.

GILLEN SAID he had not talked to anyone in government about his efforts.

He said his organization is two months old and so far has received about 8,000 to 9,000 signatures.

It would be impossible to have the signatures notarized, Gillen said.